Women and Children’s Contributions to Canadian History

Week 2: Early Settlers and Slavery

Early Spring Session 2019
LIR Program: Carleton University

Dr. Patricia Kmiec
March 18
Today’s Lecture

• What sources reveal the lives of women and children in early Canada?

• What were some common and exceptional experiences of women and children in early Canada?

• What are the various ways that the information about women and children in this time be interpreted?
New France: Background

construction of the Jesuit mission, New France, began in 1639
(courtesy Sainte-Marie Among the Hurons Historical Site)
New France: Background
Marie De L’Incarnation (1599-1672)

Mother Marie De L'Incarnation
Jefferys, Charles W. 1942
The Picture Gallery of Canadian History
Marie De L’Incarnation (1599-1672)
Kateri Tekakwitha (1656-1680)

Only known portrait from life of Kateri Tekakwitha, c. 1690, by Father Chauchetière
Filles de Roi (King’s Daughters) (1663-1673)
Children and Childhood in New France
Slavery in Early Canada

**Twenty Dollars Reward.**

RAN Away, on Thursday evening, the 18th inst, a Negro Man Servant, the property of the subscriber, named BELLFAST; but who commonly goes by the name of BILLY. At the time of his elopement he was in the service of William Forsyth, Esq; and had meditated an attempt to get on board a ship that night which lay in the harbour, bound to Newfoundland; but was frustrated: It is probable, however, he may still endeavour to escape that way, therefore, the masters of all coasters going along shore, or other vessels bound to sea, are hereby forewarned.

**PUBLIC AUCTION**

On MONDAY, 3rd of NOVEMBER, 1760

**TO BE SOLD**

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. JOHN RIDER

**SLAVES**

A BOY & GIRL, ABOUT 11 YEARS OLD

HALIFAX

**Wanted to purchase.**

A NEGRO GIRL, from 7 to 12 years of age, of good disposition.—For further particulars apply to the subscribers.

W. & J. CROOKS.

West Niagara, Oct. 4.

(3141)
Marie-Joseph Angelique (died 1734)

Modern-day depiction
Chloe Cooley
“Brant's third wife, my mistress, was a barbarous creature. She could talk English, but she would not. She would tell me in Indian to do things, and then hit me with any thing that came to hand, because I did not understand her. I have a scar on my head from a wound she gave me with a hatchet; and this long scar over my eye, is where she cut me with a knife. The skin dropped over my eye; a white woman bound it up.... [The scars spoken of were quite perceptible, but the writer saw many worse looking cicatrices of wounds not inflicted by Indian savages, but by civilized men]... Brant was very angry, when he came home, at what she had done, and punished her as if she had been a child. Said he, "you know I adopted her as one of the family, and now you are trying to put all the work on her."
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Next Week: Industry, Morality, and Nineteenth-Century Change